

Claim 21 has been amended as follows:

21. (Amended) The method [for producing a biochip according to] of claim 27 [5 or claim 8], wherein the [spotting] pin comprises at least one recessed tip.

Claim 23 has been amended as follows:

23. (Amended) The method for producing a biochip according to claim 26 [5, claim 8, or claim 22], wherein the plate is substantially planar.

Please add the following new claims:

--24. (NEW) A method for producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing a binding agent, wherein the binding agent is capable of immobilizing a probe to the biochip, and a probe;
- (b) spotting the binding agent to a plurality of positions on the biochip; and
- (c) spotting a plurality of probes onto the positions spotted in step (b), wherein the binding agent is only provided on an area of the biochip where a probe is to be spotted, thereby producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes.

25. (NEW) A method for producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing a mixture of a binding agent and a probe, wherein the binding agent is capable of immobilizing the probe to the biochip; and
- (b) spotting the mixture to a plurality of positions on the biochip; wherein the binding agent is only provided on an area of the biochip where a probe is to be spotted, thereby producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes.

26. (NEW) A method for producing a biochip comprising a plate comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing a plate;
- (b) providing a mixture of a binding agent and a probe, wherein the binding agent is capable of immobilizing the probe to the plate; and

(c) spotting the mixture to a plurality of positions on the plate; the binding agent is only provided on an area of the biochip where a probe is to be spotted, thereby producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes.

27. (NEW) The method of claim 24, claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture, the probe or the binding agent is spotted with a pin.

28. (NEW) The method of claim 24, claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture, the probe or the binding agent is spotted with a tube.

29. (NEW) The method of claim 28, wherein the tube is a capillary tube.

30. (NEW) The method of claim 27, wherein the pin comprises a tip comprising at least one recess.

31. (NEW) The method of claim 30, wherein the recess comprises concave shape.

32. (NEW) The method of claim 31, wherein the recess comprises at least one groove.

33. (NEW) The method of claim 32, wherein the groove comprises a radially-shaped groove.

34. (NEW) The method of claim 24, claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture, the probe or the binding agent is suctioned by a pin and spotted on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

35. (NEW) The method of claim 24, claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture, the probe or the binding agent is carried by a tip of a pin and spotted on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

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Serial No. : 09/451,666
Filed : November 30, 1999
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Attorney's Docket No.: (new) 13452-002001
(old) 07898-051001
/ PH-709US

36. (NEW) The method of claim 24, claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture, the probe or the binding agent comprises a solution, and the solution is carried by surface tension by a tip of a pin and spotted on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.--